

News Briefs


**Commander's call**  
BLAZE TEAM members must attend a mandatory commander's call today at 7 a.m., 10 a.m. or 3 p.m. There is only enough seating for 400 personnel and parking is limited. Please arrive early and carpool if possible.

**Aerodome usage**  
Anyone wishing to operate a personal owned vehicle on the aerodome must have an approved POV permit and a flightline driver's license. All planned usage of any part of the aerodome, including the SAC Alert are must be coordinated with airfield management. For more information or questions, call Harold Treadway at Ext. 2996.

**ASIST**  
An Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training class will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday at the chapel annex. Participants must sign up before Tuesday. The training will focus on intervention skills when confronted with a suicidal situation. For more information, call Ext. 2239.

**Cell phone usage**  
Vehicle operators on a Department of Defense installation and operators of government owned vehicles will not use cell phones unless the vehicle is safely parked or unless they are using a hands-free device. The wearing of portable headphones, earphones or other listening devices (except for hands-free cellular phones) while operating a motor vehicle is prohibited.

Inside



FEATURE 9

New Airman's uniform finalized and ready for production



Senior Airman John Parie  
Fourteen Senior Airman from ALS class 06-3, like Chenoa Kirksey, 14th Operations Support Squadron, spent four hours working at the Riding Improves Development, Esteem Strength and Spirit facility in Caledonia, Miss., Saturday.

**ALS class 06-3 donates time for RIDES**

Senior Airman Cecilia Rodriguez, 14th Flying Training Wing

Airman Leadership School Class 06-3 donated their efforts to a selfless cause Saturday to supplement their current professional military education curriculum.

Fourteen senior Airmen, alongside their class instructor, Tech. Sgt. Brian Flanders, and class mentor, Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Bulmahn, spent four hours at the R.I.D.E.S. facility in Caledonia, Miss.

Riding Improves Development, Esteem, Strength and Spirit is a non-profit charity and a member of the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association. The facility provides therapeutic horseback riding for disabled individuals and currently serves 17 riders, ages 5 to 22, with a wide range of physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities.

The project materialized when ALS student Senior Airman Chenoa Kirksey, 14th Operations Support Squadron, suggested the idea. She is one of 25 volunteers who actively participates in the R.I.D.E.S. program.

“We were supposed to go out there to build a stable, but when we completed that task ahead of schedule, we continued to find other projects to complete,” Airman Kirksey said.

The ALS Airmen also helped paint a barn and finish a roofing project on the facility grounds.

“Every ALS class completes a community service project because it’s a great lesson in teamwork and off-duty involvement as an NCO,” Sergeant Flanders said. “It also allows them to get involved in and give back to a community that strongly supports Columbus AFB.”

*(Editor's note: For more information about RIDES, visit [www.rides4him.org](http://www.rides4him.org) or contact Airman Kirksey at Ext. 2005.)*

Columbus AFB Training Timeline									
Phase II				Phase III				Wing Sortie Board	
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required
37th (06-15)	5.46 days	- 0.46 days	April 3	48th (06-07)	4.13 days	2.01 days	April 7	T-37	2252
41st (07-01)	1.29 days	- 0.86 days	April 26	50th (06-07)	0.16 days	0.95 days	April 7	T-38C	1006
								T-1A	941
								Flown	Annual
									14183
									6373
									6300

Graduation speaker: Lt. Gen. Dennis Larsen, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command vice commander

News

CV-22 delivered to Air Force

KIRTLAND AFB, N.M. — A new chapter in Air Force aviation opened March 20 as the first operational CV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft arrived here.

The aircraft was flown from the test wing at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., by Lt. Gen. Michael W. Wooley, commander of Air Force Special Operations Command, to the 58th Special Operations Wing at Kirtland. The 58th provides advanced training to special operations pilots and aircrews.

The CV-22 Osprey is a special operations variant of the MV-22, currently used by the Marines. The aircraft has the unique ability to takeoff, land and hover like a helicopter, and it can tilt its propellers to fly like a conventional, prop-driven aircraft.

“The CV-22 has the capability to fly at turboprop speeds like a C-130 (Hercules), pull into helicopter mode and land like an MH-53J/M Pave Low,” General Wooley said. “This is truly transformational for Air Force Special Operations Command.”

This dual capability gives the CV-22 extended range, speed and versatility over any other AFSOC aircraft. The extended range and speed will allow the Air Force to conduct long-range infiltration and exfiltration missions. The CV-22 and MV-22 are very similar, with differences existing mainly in the avionics needed for special operations missions.

The 58th SOW is scheduled to receive four CV-22s by the end of June. The first operational CV-22 unit will operate out of Hurlburt Field, Fla., starting in 2007.

The initial pilot training includes 400 hours of interactive computer-based training, 60 simulator hours and 40 flying hours in the MV-22 version of the Osprey. This will be followed by CV-22 mission-specific training for AFSOC pilots and flight engineers at Kirtland.

Through the use of live-fire testing, the Osprey has proven to be four to eight times less vulnerable to enemy fire than current aircraft. It is 75 percent quieter, can fly higher and has one-tenth the infrared signature compared to most rotary aircraft.

The CV-22 currently costs \$89.1 million. However, cost reduction initiatives and a multi-year procurement contract is expected to significantly reduce that price.

The Air Force plans on buying 50 CV-22s from now until 2017. *(Courtesy of Air Force Special Operations Command News Service)*



Staff Sgt. Markus MaierU.S. Air Force Photo  
Airmen at Kirtland AFB, N.M., prepare to greet Lt. Gen. Michael W. Wooley, commander of the Air Force Special Operations Command. General Wooley delivered the Air Force's first operational CV-22 Osprey to the 58th Special Operations Wing Monday.



Capt. Alan Chunn  
41st Flying Training Squadron



The 14th Flying Training Wing congratulates  
**Capt. Alan Chunn**  
on his selection as the  
**41st Flying Training Squadron's  
LeMay Flight Commander.**

**14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED**

As of press time, **33 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed** worldwide.

Remember to support the troops and their families while they are away.



**Speaker's Bureau** Speakers are needed for the Columbus AFB Speaker's Bureau. Anyone interested in speaking about the Air Force or their career field at civic clubs, career fairs, science fairs, elementary schools or high schools in the Golden Triangle area can contact the public affairs office at Call Ext. 7068.

SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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# Air sampling study benefits Airmen's health

**Senior Airman Chad Frost**  
379th Air Expeditionary Wing

**SOUTHWEST ASIA** — The average human takes about 12 to 20 breaths each minute. Exactly what those breaths contain is now being monitored in a study. Airmen are participating in the U.S. Central Command Enhanced Particulate Matter Surveillance Initiative to determine the levels of total solid particulates in the ambient air that Airmen breathe daily.

The 379th Expeditionary Medical Group's bioenvironmental engineering flight collects samples of particulate matter to obtain information that helps determine potential short- and long-term health effects of personnel deployed in the region.

"The lack of detailed knowledge about the ambient air particulate matter hinders the ability of physicians and other environmental health professionals to determine whether there are short- or long-term health effects from this exposure," said Maj. Winston Shaffer, 379th EMDG bioenvironmental engineering chief.

The U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine has selected two other locations in the area to conduct this program.

Currently, not enough information is known about the concentration and physical properties of the ambient air particulate matter which deployed U.S. and

coalition servicemembers are exposed to every day.

"Occupational health physicians need a more complete characterization of the particulate matter concentration and physical properties to determine what potential health effects may exist," Major Shaffer said.

To accomplish this task, technicians use three portable, battery-powered sampling equipment units to collect ambient air particulate matter samples. These units measure particulate matter ranging from the largest particles in the air to 2.5 microns.

The samples will be collected once every six days over the next year.

There are also sampling pumps, which collect samples in a various sizes. Each unit filters large particulate matter to very small particulate matter.

Using multiple size ranges allows for determination of the amount and characteristics of the particulate matter that can be trapped in the nasal cavity, bypass the nasal system and reach the lungs, which can penetrate the lungs and be taken up the bloodstream.

The largest of the particulate matter comes from sources like dusty roads, soil trilling, quarries and fuel combustion.

The particulate matter that is around 10 microns comes from transportation and industrial processes, while 2.5 micron particulate matter includes particles such as sea salt, pollens and other naturally occurring minerals and metals.



Airman 1st Class Anthony Nelson and Senior Airman Chad Frost take readings and adjust a minivol portable air sampler. The two work with the 379th Expeditionary Medical Group's bioengineering flight to monitor and collect samples of particulate matter. The information will be used to determine potential short- and long-term health effects of personnel deployed in the region.

The second aspect of this initiative is the effort to link characteristics of the source material (primarily soils for mineral dust particulates) with the characteristics of the particulate matter that are observed in the local air.

"This component of the study will provide valuable information on how to link source materials with expected contributions of dust and their physical and chemical attributes," Major Shaffer said. "This

would allow for determination of potential mineral dust exposures at sites that are identified as potential base areas."

Knowledge of potential problems before large scale deployment, through pre-testing of soils and earth materials, could be used to avert or reduce exposure levels by modifying or selecting locations that are more suitable, said Tech. Sgt. Laura Gehrig, bioenvironmental engineering noncommissioned officer in charge.

## Columbus AFB to host open house, air show

Columbus AFB will host an open house and air show April 9, welcoming aircrew from all over the United States and up to 50,000 people from the surrounding area.

The flying will begin at 10 a.m. and will last most of the afternoon.

Many performances are scheduled, including demonstrations by two Air Combat Command teams, the A-10 Warthog team from Pope AFB, N.C., and F-15E Strike Eagle team from Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C.

These demonstrations will incorporate pyrotechnics to simulate attacks on the airfield, adding realism to each demonstration.

Also performing is the T-6 Texan II demonstration team from Moody AFB, Ga.

"This will give the Columbus community and

Columbus AFB personnel the opportunity to see an amazing demonstration of the exact plane that will be stationed here in less than a year," said Lt. Col. Beau Easterling, air show director.

The performance will culminate with a historic formation heritage flight with the original version of the T-6 Texan.

The schedule also includes multiple fly-bys, civilian demonstrations, The Army Golden Knights precision parachute team and the Air Force Thunderbirds.

"Our BLAZE TEAM should realize that the folks in the community will come here to see a tremendous show and talk to the Airmen of Columbus AFB," Colonel Easterling said. "If BLAZE TEAM members have a chance, they should talk to a few people about what they do for the base. See a 15 year old get a spark

in his eye as he listens to your story.

"Air Force Base open house programs played a huge part in my decision to join the Air Force, mostly because of the people I met," he said. "You can have that kind of impact on someone, too."

Even though the flying begins at 10 a.m., the major preparation for this event will start days earlier. The involvement of base personnel and the local community will be needed.

Details will range from parking lot attendants and entry control point inspectors, to host pilots for the aircrew reception.

"Your involvement is critical to keeping the BLAZE standard of superior hospitality and ultimately to the success of this open house," Colonel Easterling said. *(Courtesy of the 14th Flying Training Wing)*

## Final oath



Col. Stephen Wilson, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, administers the oath of enlistment to Chief Master Sgt. Jeffrey Bowes, 14th FTW command chief, Monday. Chief Bowes' has served on active duty for more than 22 years.

# 'Phishing' scam targets Thrift Savings Plan

**Samantha L. Quigley**  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** -- Participants, as well as some non-participants, in the Thrift Savings Plan are targets of a "phishing" scam, an official with the board administering the program said today.

Tom Trabucco, director of external affairs for the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, said phishing is an "attempt to get recipients of the unsolicited e-mail to compromise themselves by giving up their personal financial information."

Thrift Savings Plan administrators would never request personal or financial information via e-mail, Mr. Trabucco said.

"Do not respond to unsolicited e-mail, and never give out information of a per-

sonal nature (through) unsolicited e-mails," he said.

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board alerted Thrift Savings Plan coordinators to the scam in a March 17 memo, the day after the scam was discovered. The memo described it as an unsolicited e-mail with a link to a bogus Web site appearing to be the thrift plan's account-access site.

The bogus site asks

for a recipient's social security and Thrift Savings Plan personal identification numbers. Entering this information takes the user to another screen where they are

asked for financial information, including a credit card number, he said, adding that this information can be used to steal an individual's identity.

As long as participants have not responded to this scam e-mail, their accounts have not been compromised, investment board officials wrote in the memo. Those who did respond should contact their financial institutions immediately for guidance. They should also call the Thrift Savings Plan at (877) 968-3778 and ask to have their account access blocked, according to the memo.

*"Do not respond to unsolicited e-mail, and never give out information of a personal nature through unsolicited e-mails."*

**Tom Trabucco**  
Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board

## DUI status

**"Don't Drink and Drive"**

**Last DUI:** March 5, 2006

**Days since last DUI:** 19

**Unit:** 14th Civil Engineer Squadron



# Always remember: if not us, then whom?

**Col. David Lewis**  
14th Operations Group



In 2003 a senior Department of Defense memo was leaked to the press, in which our operations in Afghanistan and Iraq were characterized as “a long, hard slog.”

You may feel the same way, as we face long deployments and the many personal and family hardships associated with combat operations. Like the weary traveler on a long journey, you may wonder if there is a better way of life. Frankly, there probably is — and we protect it.

There are roughly 300 million people who are fortunate enough to call themselves American citizens; living in perhaps the greatest civilization mankind has ever known. Less than one-half of one percent of them puts on a military uniform to go to work. Our lives as Americans are filled with abundance, incredible freedom and opportunity — and we protect all of that. I celebrated a personal milestone recent-

ly — a quarter century of continuous service on active duty. But I'll let you in on a little secret... There were several times when I wondered if I should get out and pursue a different

career. Each time I wondered, I forced myself to think back to a different time and place.

The time was spring of 1991, and the place was Southern Iraq. I was serving with the United States 1st Armored Division as an Air Liaison Officer. Our combat operations were largely concluded and my NCOIC and I made frequent trips to visit our widely dispersed Airmen, delivering supplies and hopefully a little

morale boost. Traveling down a dusty road one day, we came across a young Iraqi man with two small boys scooping water from a nasty puddle of water along the side of the road. As the father of three young boys myself, my heart was in my throat as we offered this young family some bottled water and a small share of our rations. Frightened at first, the young man, with tears in his eyes, eventually accepted our offer. As we drove away, I remember thinking how truly blessed and fortunate I was to have been born in the USA. It was difficult to talk for a long time, but right there I promised myself that I would never allow my children or grandchildren to be forced to scoop water from a putrid puddle because of the policies of some iron-fisted maniac. That single thought kept me on active duty during some tough times.

That scene has been replayed many thousands of times in the last four and a half years of the Global War on Terror by great Americans in all branches of our

armed forces. Sadly, that isn't newsworthy and few of our countrymen will ever recognize or truly appreciate how lucky they are. But protracted wars are difficult for many reasons and require incredible will and stamina to sustain. We have a daunting task, but our great society and way of life are under attack, and we cannot fail in our mission.

To those who have honorably served out their service commitment and are ready to separate, I salute you and thank you for your incredible service to your country in a time of great need. I hope you will continue to find ways to serve your country.

To those who are gearing up for the next leg of the long, hard slog — thanks for sticking with it. Your sacrifices will sustain our freedom and bring the gift of hope to many people around the globe. The challenges will be many and the working hours long, but we really do work for an incredible company.

And remember — if not us, then whom?

# AF Smart Operations 21, the lion and the gazelle

**Maj. Julian Cheater**  
14th Flying Training Wing

An old African proverb applies to the way we do business in the Air Force.

Every morning, a gazelle wakes up. It knows it must run faster than the fastest lion or it will be killed. Every morning a lion wakes up. It knows it must outrun the slowest gazelle or it will starve to death. It doesn't matter whether you're the lion or gazelle — when the sun comes up you had better be running.

The point of this insightful saying is that we, members of both the Air Force and United States, cannot afford to finish second. The stakes are too high to accept anything less than “running” efficiently. This relates to Air Force Smart Operations 21. As our Air Force continues to shrink in size and scrutinize budgets, it's becoming a matter of survival to work more efficiently. To oversimplify, AFSO 21 uses a variety of methods to add value while minimizing waste.

If your supervisor told you they wanted you to do less work, wouldn't you salute smartly and watch them disappear in your rear view mirror as you drove off?

Our Air Force leadership is asking you to do something similar, but it's not a blank check to be lazy. Instead, it's a challenge to all of us to change our mindset and work smarter.

Some inefficiencies exist due to the budget process or conflicting regulations. While we must continue to follow current guidance, we should try to eliminate those things that detract from our primary mission.

What an opportunity — our leaders are asking for our opinions about ways to do things better!

Financial constraints due to fighting terrorists in a long war, rising fuel costs, the need to replace aging aircraft and looking ahead to future technologies have made us look closer at the resources we have. We have to be better stewards of what we have because we may be facing budget shortfalls in the future for non-mission essential expenditures. In other words, we must train smarter for that moment when we must hunt down the gazelle or escape the lion.

Let's take a look at a few smart options without discussing sensitive operational issues:

\* If our wing Officer Performance Reports and Enlisted Performance Reports are consistently brushing up against deadlines, can we look at improving the wing writing guide? Can an exec on steroids at the Major Command or Air Force level author a writing guide to standardize the details? Can we use password-protected network folders to transfer draft reports between raters?

\* How can we reduce the time it takes to do paperwork? Do we provide our boss with both a concise summary of a problem and recommendation instead of forwarding a long e-mail chain with the dreaded “FYI” label at the top? Will a sustainable Web site allow us to disseminate information and reduce phone inquiries?

\* How can we improve flying training while minimizing work? Can we increase funding to make more jets available per flying period? Can we side step to the outside runway during poor weather to allow takeoffs on the main runway?

\* How can we spend money for things we need instead of buying office furniture and plasma screens just before the end-of-year closeout? Can we buy higher quality products to save money in the long term due to lower maintenance costs?

\* How can we get the job done right the first time so we don't waste time later trying to fix a train wreck? Can our job replacement sit down at our computer, look at our network files, and know exactly what to do based on our daily, weekly, monthly checklists and duties?

I don't pretend to be an authority on AFSO 21; these experts will brief us in due time about each process in detail. However, I do know how to apply common sense and work smarter because I am motivated to see my family daily, develop spiritually, and participate in hobbies I enjoy outside of work. Besides that, I am really motivated to see our AF succeed in combating terrorists and deterring future aggressors so that we may continue to preserve our freedoms and way of life. Today, we must train harder, faster and smarter to ensure that we are not the lion or gazelle (take your pick) gasping for air.

While no one really knows what transformation our Air Force will make in the next few years, we should be thankful that our leaders are asking for our inputs. Change can be a great opportunity, especially if it means eliminating those taskings that waste our time and don't contribute to deterring or eliminating the bad guys. For more information, visit <http://www.afso21.hq.af.mil/>. Now it's time to get to that stack of staff summary sheets ... or maybe not. I'm going for a run.

# Female pilot shares Air Force experience

**Master Sgt. Scott King**  
40th Air Expeditionary Group

**OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM** — She follows Air Force history — through her family's footsteps. Her dad and his siblings grew up in an Air Force family, having nothing but great things to say about the Air Force way of life.

Maj. Andrea Jensen, a forward deployed B-52 pilot with the 40th Air Expeditionary Group, has had a love of planes since she can remember. On her first assignment as a second lieutenant, she decided to turn that love of planes into reality while she was at Edwards AFB, Calif.

“I was working as project engineer, for what is now the Air Force Research Lab at Edwards,” she said. “When I got the chance, I would step outside and watch all the flying activity. I especially enjoyed watching the SR-71 and the C-17 — that's when I decided to trade my lab job for a career in the cockpit.”

The Minnesota native earned her pilot's license while in high school, but thought at the time it would always be a hobby. Now, she has accumulated more than 100 combat hours flying the Stratofortress in the sky over Afghanistan.

“This is the first time I've been able to apply my skills as a pilot in a combat environment,” Major Jensen said. “Providing close air support for our U.S. and coalition ground troops using the B-52 platform allows our ground forces to get some sleep at night — our presence in the air is vital for their sustainment and well-being.”

Her education has been her stepping stone into the B-52. She graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was commissioned from the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program in 1995. While at Edwards, she applied for pilot training, was accepted and graduated from Undergraduate Pilot Training at Laughlin AFB, Texas, in 1999.

Her first assignment as a pilot was at Laughlin where she flew as a T-37 instructor pilot. Following her assignment there, she moved on to Barksdale AFB, La., and attended B-52 initial qualification training. In May 2004, she graduated as an aircraft commander and joined the 20th Bomb Squadron at Barksdale.

With relatively short time in the B-52, about two years, Maj. Jensen feels her role as a pilot supporting Operation Enduring Freedom pays dividends through deterrence — whether psychological through the B-52's presence or through use of non-lethal and lethal weaponry.

“Our task is different from day to day over Afghanistan. At times we are asked by the joint terminal attack controllers on the ground, to provide a show of force by coming in low and dropping flares,” she said. “Up in the air, we're pretty far removed from what's happening on the ground. I'm just happy we can assist when our forces are in harm's way.”

“From my perspective, it's easy to take the role of women in the military for granted,” she said. “More than a decade has passed since women first flew in combat. I really appreciate all the contributions women have made over the years that got us where we are today. Women don't yet have complete equality in all facets of military operations, and I don't know if we'll ever truly reach completely equitable conditions. But from my perspective, being a successful officer and pilot is not about being male or female — it's about doing your job as best you can.”

**(Editor's note: March is women's history month)**

# Airman Battle Uniform finalized, ready for production fiscal '07

**Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle**  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** — The new Airman Battle Uniform is ready for production and will be available in fiscal 2007, said the Air Force deputy chief of staff of personnel.

Many factors were considered in developing the final uniform selection, with the concern for Airmen being at the top of the list, said Brig. Gen Robert R. Allardice.

“We were looking for a uniform that would be easier to maintain,” he said. “We wanted to provide a uniform that the Airman wouldn't need to spend a lot of out-of-pocket expenses to maintain.”

Also, Airmen's feedback throughout the process was beneficial in adding new pockets on the uniform.

“We listened to the Airmen's request where they wanted pockets to hold small tools and when they wear body armor the existing shirt pockets are not accessible or usable,” General Allardice said. “It will have the four pockets on the front of the shirt, and also a small pencil pocket on the left forearm and two pockets on the lower legs. In addition, inside the side pockets and inside of the breast pockets there will be smaller sewn-in pockets to hold small tools, flashlights or cell phones.”

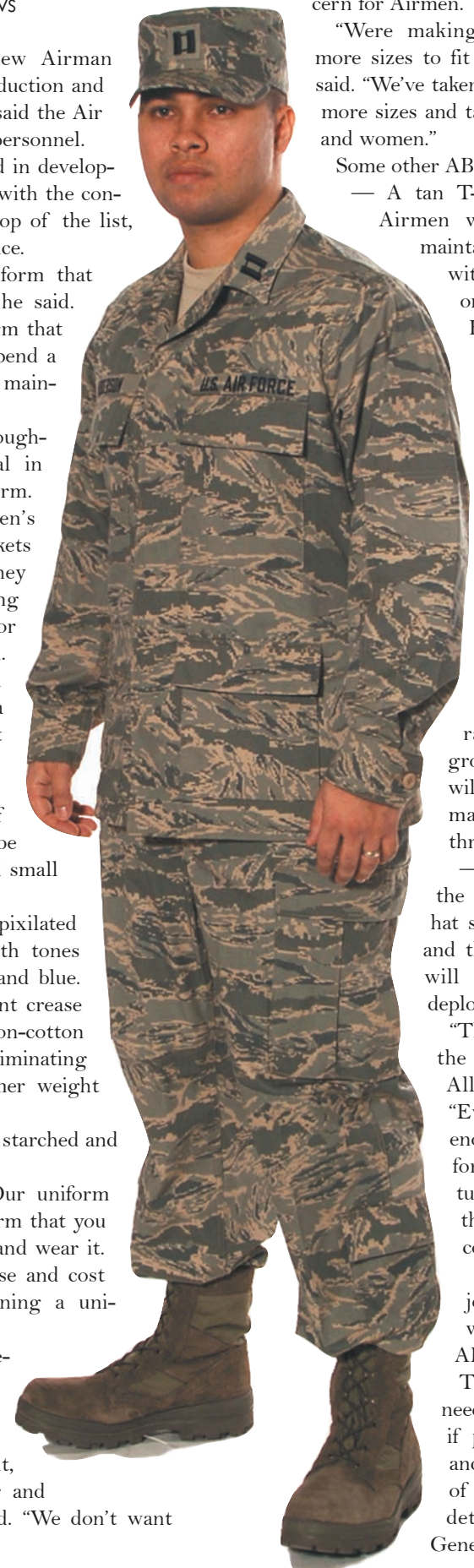
The new uniform design is a pixilated tiger stripe with four soft earth tones consisting of tan, grey, green and blue. The ABU will have a permanent crease and will be offered in 50-50 nylon-cotton blend permanent press fabric eliminating the need for winter and summer weight uniforms.

Will the new ABU need to be starched and pressed?

“Absolutely not,” he said. “Our uniform requirement is we want a uniform that you wash, pull it out of the dryer, and wear it. This requirement meets the ease and cost effectiveness needs in maintaining a uniform.”

He speaks from personal experience and added that in the long run it will save Airmen money on dry cleaning costs.

“I tested this uniform. I wash it, take it right out of the dryer and wear it,” General Allardice said. “We don't want people putting an iron to it.”



The fit of the uniform was also a concern for Airmen.

“Were making them available in more sizes to fit the body better,” he said. “We've taken the time to produce more sizes and tailored them for men and women.”

Some other ABU accessory items:

— A tan T-shirt will be worn; Airmen will be required to maintain one tan T-shirt with an Air Force logo on the front and Air Force written on the back.

— Suede cowhide boots in matching green-gray color; like the desert boot these will be polish-free and available in men's and women's sizes.

— The word color for the name, U.S. Air Force, and rank is midnight blue; nametapes and rank insignia background will be tan and will be sewn on using a matching tan color thread.

— The ABU adopts the battle dress uniform hat style for primary use and the floppy hat design will be used in some deployed areas.

“This is the uniform of the future,” General Allardice said. “Eventually when enough of these uniforms are manufactured, we will phase out the BDU and desert combat uniforms.”

The current projected mandatory wear date for the new ABU is fiscal 2011.

The only thing that needs to be determined is if patches will be worn and the Air Force chief of staff will make that determination soon, General Allardice said.

**Club membership drive:** The Columbus Club launches its 2006 membership drive April 1st - "It Pays to Be a Club Member." Current members may enter a weekly drawing for \$20 in club bucks every time they eat lunch at the club, stop in for a beverage in one of the lounges, order from the lounge menu, attend family fun night or play quick shot bingo.

The first weekly drawing will be April 10. Anyone who registers for membership during the drive will receive five entry blanks for the weekly drawings. Current members who sponsor a new member will also receive five entry blanks. The membership drive ends May 31. The club will conduct a drawing for current and new members each for \$250 in club credit. For more information, call Ext. 2490.

**Spring break trip to Orlando:** Register at the information, ticket and travel office for this trip to Orlando, Fla., Saturday to Thursday. Cost is \$415 for one person, \$265 each for two people in the same room, \$215 each for three people in one room and \$190 each for four people in one room. Cost includes transportation, four nights lodging and shuttle service while in Orlando. Discount Disney tickets are available at the ITT office. For more information, call Ext. 7861.

**Lunch buffets:** The Columbus Club offers an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Tuesday's new menu includes meat loaf, Southern fried pork chops, veggies and homemade apple pie. Wednesday's menu features a southern comfort buffet with fried chicken, smoked brisket and cobbler. Thursday is the backyard barbecue and Friday's menu is a bonsai buffet with teriyaki chicken, beef vegetable stir fry, fried rice and egg rolls. Cost is \$5.50 per person and includes iced tea or lemonade. Call Ext. 2490.

**Crafts classes:** The arts and crafts center's upcoming crafts classes for March feature seasonal projects. Adult classes are at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Upcoming classes include a picket fence Easter door hanging, an Easter bunny door hanging, a bunny trail yard decoration, a shelf bunny, a spring door hanging and a wooden patchwork heart hanging.

The youth classes are offered Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Upcoming classes include a personalized pillow case, a bunny bell neck-

lace, a wooden bunny, a clay pot Easter candy dish, a Easter tic-tac-toe game, a clay saucer lady bug and a puzzle piece picture frame.

A display of all projects is available in the arts and crafts lobby.

Participants must register at least four days prior to the class date. Call Ext. 7836 for more information.

**Home decor workshops:** The arts and crafts center offers a class at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. March 30 to make a boy's or girl's toy box. Cost is \$30 and includes all supplies. Make a garden bench for \$35 in this class at 10 a.m. or 6 p.m. April 13. Register at least four days prior to the class start date. Call Ext. 7836 for more information.

**Spring break bowling special:** The bowling center offers 50-cents a game bowling and free shoe rental for students during spring break Monday through March 31. Call Ext. 2426 for more information.


**Parent/teen outdoor adventure camp:** The youth center is accepting applications for this program open to families of active duty Air Force, Air Force reserve, their spouses and dependents, ages 12 to 14. The camp, lodging and meals are free. If selected the participants must pay for their own transportation to the camp. Camp is June 25 to July 2 in Colorado Springs, Co. The week long program is focused on creating a bonding experience for families through participation in various outdoor and indoor activities. Each person must be able to participate in a high and low ropes course, rock climbing, hiking, horseback riding, white water rafting and more. Deadline for submitting an application is April 5 at the youth center. Call Ext. 2504 for more information.

**Memphis Grizzlies honor military families:** Military families may enter a drawing for the opportunity to attend a 2006 Memphis Grizzlies home game by picking up an application at the information, ticket and travel office. The winner will receive passes to a game for up to 10 family members, two parking passes and a \$10 concessions voucher per person.

The chosen servicemember must have been deployed to the Middle East during the last four years for a period of no less than six months as a member of the U.S. armed forces.

Eligible applications will remain in the drawing for every home game so families only need apply one time. The Grizzlies

## Putting a round



U.S. Air Force Photo

**Golfers like Wendell Reed are invited to attend the golf course's open house with pro shop sales and specials from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 1.**

Foundation staff will give winning families at least one week's notice before the game to coordinate plans to attend. For more information, call Ext. 7861.

**Whispering Pines Golf Course open house:** The staff at the golf course will have an open house from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 1. There will be a sale on all pro shop merchandise and door prizes. One door prize ticket will be awarded with the purchase of \$20. Sign up for an annual membership and receive five door prize tickets. Purchase a golf greens fee punch card and receive two door prize tickets. Purchase an annual cart plan and receive an additional three door prize tickets. A free hot dog, chips and soda will be given

for each of the purchases listed above and will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Door prizes include at least two \$100 pro shop gift certificates and three \$50 pro shop gift certificates. Drawings will be held at 3 p.m. and winners must be present to win. Gift certificates will only be valid on April 1 for in stock merchandise.

**National Library Week:** The base library celebrates National Library Week April 2 through April 8 with a "Know Your Library from A to Z" contest. Pick up an entry form and rules at the library starting April 2. All entries must be turned in by close of business April 6. One point given for each answer for a possible high score of 26. Call Ext. 2935.

## Chapel Schedule

### Catholic

Sunday:  
9:15 a.m. — Mass  
10:30 a.m. — CCD  
5 p.m. — Confessions  
5:30 p.m. — SUPT Mass  
Tuesday:  
7 p.m. — RCIA

### Protestant

Sunday:  
9 a.m. — Adult and children's  
Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. — Contemporary service at the services complex  
10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship service at the chapel sanctuary  
Monday:  
7 p.m. — Bible study fellowship  
Wednesday:  
11:30 a.m. — Lunchtime study  
5 p.m. — Pot luck supper  
6 p.m. — Video study  
A Case for Kids  
Pioneer Clubs

Thursday:  
9 a.m. — Ladies Bible Study  
For information, call Ext. 2500.

## Base Notes

### Spaghetti dinner

The confirmation class and the Knights of Columbus will have a spaghetti dinner fundraiser April 2 after the 5:30 p.m. service. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for ages 6 to 14 and ages 5 and younger eat free.

### COSC Scholarship Awards

The Columbus Officers' Spouses' Club will be presenting 2005 and 2006 Scholarship Awards at 6 p.m. April 11 at the Columbus Club. Cost is \$14 and the menu is London Broil with Au Jus. Club members will receive a \$2 discount. For more information, or to make a reservation, e-mail Jennifer Wood at woodtjjg@cableone.net or call 425-3059 by noon April 6. Non-attended reservations will be charged.

### Post office promotional

BLAZE TEAM members can win a half or a whole book of stamps with every purchase of a 39-cent book of stamps at the base post office now

through Easter. For details on this promotion, call 2960.

### Student Spouse workshop

Past, present and future student spouses are invited to a ceramic painting workshop at 6:30 p.m. April 12 at Kaboodles. Prices of the ceramics vary upon items chosen, and spouses will receive 15-percent discount on purchased items. For questions, more information, or reservations, call Allison Adair at 434-8714.

### Commissary closure

Due to the air show, the commissary will be closed April 9. It will re-open April 10 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### Garage sales

On-base garage sales are only permitted the first Saturday of every month. Advertisements for sales are limited to yard signs or ads in the base paper only. Signs must be no larger than 2 feet by 2 feet. Displaying signs on utility poles and street signs is prohibited. Advertising yard sales in the local media, excluding the base newspaper, is also prohibited. People may locally advertise individual items for sale, such as automobiles, boats, washers, dryers or refrigerators. Columbus AFB housing areas are located on a federal installation and the civilian public may only enter a military installation on official business, open house functions or social visitations. Yard and carport sales do not fall within these criteria.

### Thrift shop

The base thrift shop is open from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays. Volunteers are needed. Consignments are accepted Thursdays during business hours until one hour before closing. For more information, call Ext. 2954.

## Family Support Center

*(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call Ext. 2790.)*

### Free childcare

The Childcare for PCS program offers up to 20 hours of free childcare per child for active-duty Air Force people arriving at or departing from Columbus AFB. Certificates are available within 60 days of departure or arrival. For more information, call Sharon Nichols at Ext. 2790.

### Spouse welcome

A welcome reception for spouses new to Columbus AFB is from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. every Wednesday at the Magnolia Inn Lobby. Spouses will receive gifts and information about the family support center.

### Relocation assistance

Those relocating or making a permanent change of station can stop by the family support center for information about new bases, checklists to make moving easier and suggestions for traveling with children.

### Smooth move

A workshop for relocating families is from 2 to 4 p.m. April 4. Participants will learn what to expect from the travel management office, housing, military pay, legal, billeting, Tricare and the family support center.

### Deployment briefings

Pre-deployment briefings are held daily at 9 a.m. Family members are encouraged to attend. For more information, call Ext. 2974 or Ext. 2790.

### Sponsorship training

A workshop designed for all unit introduction monitors is at 9 a.m. Tuesday. Training includes the importance of effective sponsorship and resources available for both sponsors and newcomers.

### Government applications

A workshop on federal employment and the Small Business Administration is from 2:50 to 3:45 p.m. Thursday.

### Air Force Aid Society

The AFAS offers 24-hour emergency assistance. Possible aid includes interest-free loans, grants, car repairs and emergency travel. For more information, call the family support center.

### Personal financial analysis

Individual financial counseling and a financial analysis are available for those planning to make a major financial decision, purchase a home or vehicle, or make a lifestyle change.

### Free oil change

The Air Force Aid Society's "Car Care Because We Care" program is available to Airmen enrolled in the First Term Airmen's Center and spouses of active-duty Air Force members deployed or remote for more than 30 days. Call Ext. 2855.

# Top 25 Biggest Losers

<b>Six Fatties</b>
216.75 points
<b>Team Red</b>
202.16 points
<b>CE Cinderellas</b>
185.49 points
<b>Munch Bunch</b>
157.07 points
<b>Lean Machines</b>
151.41 points
<b>Crumb Counters</b>
143.25 points
<b>True Warriors</b>
138.02 points
<b>48th FTS Fat Cats</b>
133.79 points
<b>Quarter Pounders</b>
117.02 points
<b>The Triple S Threat</b>
110.21 points
<b>Heavenly Heavyweights</b>
99.47 points
<b>Teximara Exteme Losers</b>
96.24 points
<b>Brickhouses</b>
87.51 points
<b>YC-6</b>
85.78 points
<b>D.E. Fat McFatness</b>
78.88 points
<b>Skinny Dreams</b>
78.38 points
<b>Shape Shifters</b>
77.17 points
<b>Worker Bees</b>
74.18 points
<b>Six Pack</b>
59.55 points
<b>Chunky Monkeys</b>
43.77 points

**Daily historic home tours:** The public is invited to drop by or call the Mississippi Welcome Center or Columbus Historic Foundation for schedules of historic homes open for tours. For admission or more information, call (800) 920-3533.

**Community Volunteer Center:** People in search of volunteer opportunities can contact the Community Volunteer Center at 327-0807, or visit the office at 501 Seventh St. North, Suite 5, in the Plaza Building.

**Exchange Club:** The Exchange Club of Columbus meets at noon Thursdays at the Columbus Country Club. The organization is a community service group dedicated to programs and projects that aid in the prevention of child abuse. For more information, e-mail exchange clubofcolumbusms@yahoo.com.

**Tales from the Crypt:** Beginning Monday,, costumed guides will lead narrated candlelight tours of historic Friendship Cemetery, site of the first Memorial Day observance in April, 1866. Admission is \$2 per person for non-students and \$1 per person for students. Tours

begin at 7 p.m. and the last tour begins at 9:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science in conjunction with the annual Spring Pilgrimage. For more information, call (800) 327-2686.

**Community-wide yard sale:** The Bartahatchie Community on Wolfe Road will have a community-wide yard sale from noon to 4 p.m. March 31 and starting at 6 a.m. April 1. There will be approximately 10 miles of sales. For more information, call Carla Rose at Ext. 7273.

**Trash to treasures:** An art, crafts, antiques and collectibles sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 8 on the Columbus Fair grounds. For more information, call 328-5147 or 329-8783.

**Columbus Pilgrimage 10K Run:** This race will begin at 8 a.m. April 8 at the Tennessee Williams Welcome Center. Participants will run through Columbus' Historic District while viewing some of the South's antebellum homes. The run will be completed on the new river walk along the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway.

Awards will be given to first overall, first masters and first grandmasters. Fore more information, Call O.K. Bryant at (662) 327-7688 or e-mail him at TKOKB2@aol.com

**Stork Support:** Oktibbeha County Hospital hosts an expectant parent childbirth class Mondays at 6 p.m. in its educational facility. For more information, call 615-3364.

**Community CPR:** Baptist Memorial Hospital-Golden Triangle offers community CPR classes each month. Call the education department for dates at 244-1497 or (800) 544-8762, Ext. 1497.

**Belly dancing:** Oktibbeha County Hospital's Wellness Connection offers two six-week belly dancing classes at OCH HealthPlex Aerobics Studio. The 6:30 p.m. class is for beginners and the 7:30 p.m. is for those who have previously received belly dance instruction. For more information, call (662) 323-9355.

**For more event listings, visit [www.columbusms.org](http://www.columbusms.org), or [www.tupelo.net](http://www.tupelo.net).**

## BARGAIN LINE

### Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.

Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.

Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.

Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one)      Home      Transportation      Miscellaneous      Yard sales      Pets

Print advertisement \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ Duty Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

(in case we need more information)

**Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:**

Are you happy with the Silver Wings?    Yes ☐    No ☐

What would you like to see more of in the newspaper?    News ☐    Sports ☐    Photos ☐    Other \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at [silverwings@columbus.af.mil](mailto:silverwings@columbus.af.mil).

# Illinois grounds Air Force season

Wayne Amann  
U.S. Air Force Academy

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** — Bombs did not materialize in San Diego — off the court or on it.

Two hours before the start of the first round of games March 16 in the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament there, bomb-sniffing dogs found a suspicious package in Cox Arena, necessitating an evacuation of the building and a subsequent delay in the day's games.

When Air Force finally tipped off against Illinois, the bomb many of the so-called hoop experts thought the Falcons would drop, didn't show up either.

Air Force lost to heavily favored Illinois, 78-69, in the first meeting between the two schools. But, if there is such a thing as a moral victory in defeat, it was the Falcons' season finale against last year's championship runners up.

The bluesuiters gave up height, depth, quickness and a gym full of post-season tournament experience (26 NCAA appearances to four) to the Fighting Illini. Air Force, however, never gave up on itself.

The 13th-seeded Falcons kept the fourth-seed from the Big Ten Conference in their sights most of the game. A steal and driving lay up by junior forward Jacob Burtschi had Air Force nipping at Illinois' heels, 39-38, with 16:19 left in the second half.

But the Illini reeled off a 6-0 run in the next 49 seconds to keep Air Force head coach Jeff Bzdelik's crew at arms length.

"We simply could not get enough stops," Coach Bzdelik said. "When we did, we couldn't culminate it with a defensive rebound."

Illinois out-rebounded the Falcons, 28-15. Seven were offensive boards.

Air Force kept the outcome in doubt most of the way — thanks to its three-point shooting.

The last lead the Falcons enjoyed was 11-9, courtesy of a Burtschi 3-pointer with 12:02 remaining in the first half.

Air Force set a Cox Arena NCAA Tournament record for three-point field goals made (13) and attempted (28). Junior guard Matt McCraw led the way going 4-for-5 from beyond the arc.

Meanwhile, Jamar Smith stole the long-range shooting show, and basically the game, for Illinois. The 6-foot 3-inch freshman guard came off the bench and torched the country's no. 1-ranked Falcons' defense for six 3-pointers in nine attempts, en route to a game-high 20 points. That tied an NCAA Tournament school record for three-point field goals made.

Smith and fellow reserve, junior forward Warren Carter, combined for 32 points on 13-for-18 from the floor.

"We did our best to shut down their power (seniors James Augutine, 10 points, and Dee Brown, eight points), but their younger guys came up big," Burtschi said. "That's what team with stars like that do."

"Smith and Carter terrorized us," said Falcon senior guard Antoine Hood who scored a team-high 17 points and dished out six assists in his final game at Air Force.



Falcon forward Jacob Burtschi flies to the basket above Illinois guard Dee Brown during the NCAA Tournament game Thursday, March 16 at Cox Arena in San Diego.

Danny Meyer

Burtschi, McCraw and junior forward Dan Nwaelele each scored for 13 points, while center John Frye added eight. The Falcons shot 51 percent from the floor (21-for-41 against the No. 1 rated defense in the Big Ten.

That was negated by Illinois shooting a season-high 58 percent (29-for-50), including 64 percent (16-for-25) in the second half.

"They have a lot of weapons," Bzdelik said. "We tried to limit them, but their fire power off the bench broke our backs. When we scouted them, three other Big

Ten teams told us Illinois was the team they feared the most. By far, they're the best team we played all year long."

Reflecting on the Falcons record-setting 24-7 campaign, Bzdelik said he told his players that while losing hurts, they should think about all the good things that happened this year.

"All the credit goes to the players," the first-year Falcon coach said. "They kept battling, staying within our game. They were very resilient, coachable, dedicated and passionate. I love them. They're great."

4:45 p.m. April 6. Entry fee is \$5 plus greens fees. Teams will be computer generated.

### Golf Clinic

An adult golf clinic teaching is scheduled for 9 a.m. April 22 at the base golf course. Cost is \$5. For more information, call Ext. 7932.

### No-tap bowling

A country night no tap bowling tournament will be held at 7 p.m. April 21 at the bowling center.

### Ten star basketball camp

Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All Star summer basketball camp. The camp is by

## Sports Shorts

### Soccer coaches needed

The youth center still needs volunteer coaches for the youth outdoor soccer league. To sign up or for more inforamtion, call Ext. 2504

### Golf sign-ups

Any BLAZE TEAM member wishing to play intramural golf should sign up at with their squadron sports representative by April 3.

### Golf scrambles

Thursday afternoon golf scrambles will begin at